Stormwater Projects for Harlem Inner Block Parks (ER 4106/A37)

The Baltimore City Department of Public Works (DPW) is required to install Best Management Practices (BMPs) that reduce and treat stormwater entering its waterways per its federal Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit. Harlem Inner Block Parks were one of the parks selected for impervious area removal and lot greening.

What is Lot Greening/ Impervious Removal?

Surfaces covered by materials such as asphalt, compacted gravel, concrete, brick, and stone are impervious. Impervious materials repel water and prevent rain from infiltrating into soil as groundwater. Removal of these impervious materials, and replacing them with grass and trees, reduces stormwater runoff and the associated pollutants such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediments, which are polluting our waterways. Abandoned parking areas, paved park and play areas, and unused walkways can be converted to new green spaces that increase infiltration and create new community spaces.

What are benefits to communities?

Impervious removal would help the communities to:

- Improve downstream water quality.
- Enhance property aesthetic with landscape vegetation.
- Increase potential green space within the community.
- Improve air quality.
- Reduce stormwater runoff.
- Reduce downstream erosion.

Example of a Stream Restoration Project.

What is proposed for Lot Greening/Impervious Removal Area at Harlem Park?

Several Harlem Park inner block parks **(E89, F90.A, F90.B, K101, X123, Q112 & R113)** shown in Figure 1 are proposed to have impervious areas removed. This includes the removal of the dilapidated pavement that will be replaced with grass and trees. This project is in conjunction with the Green Network Plan.

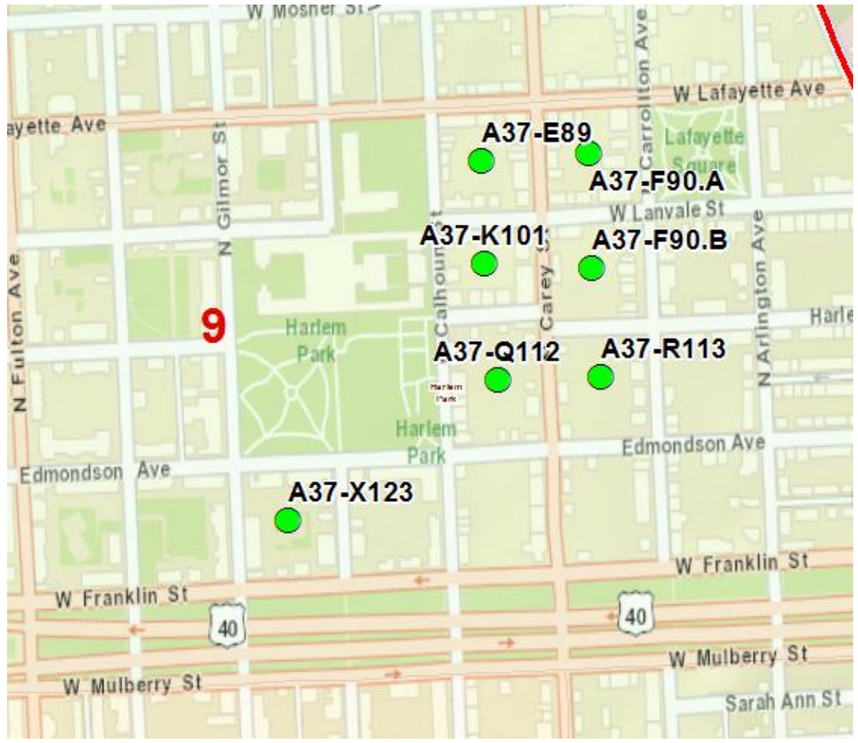

Figure 1

When will they be installed?

Subject to funding and regulatory approvals, we are projecting that construction of the impervious area removal and lot greening will start in September 2022.

Comments/Questions?

Please contact the City Project Manager Ms. Kirastin Spence with any question you may have via at: email kirastin.spence@baltimorecity.gov, and/or office at: (410)-396-3440.

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